

LULACnews

November | December 2006

**New President Vows to Take
LULAC to Next Level of Activism**

**Special Recognition:
Luis "Chano" Rodriguez**

78th 2007 Chicago Convention Flyer

**United with a Purpose:
Cristina Saralegui and Diageo
Come Together to Benefit the
Hispanic Community**

**Newly Elected LULAC
National President
Rosa Rosales**



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Cover photo by Luis Nuño Briones



LULAC National President's first visit with LULAC national staff in Washington, DC.

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LULACnews

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A MESSAGE *from the President*



photo by Luis Nuño Briones

It is a great honor to serve as the newly elected leader of LULAC. Not only do I realize the privilege it is to serve LULAC, I also realize the vast challenges that I must face as president. Thankfully, I will not face these challenges alone because I know that I can count on the tremendous leadership of LULAC members to help me strengthen our organization and serve our community.

As the newest leader in the long and distinguished line of LULAC National Presidents, I pledge to continue the LULAC tradition of advocacy on behalf of the Hispanic community especially during these difficult times and taking

LULAC to the next level of activism. We have thousands of members and my goal is to double our membership within the next two years. If everyone brings in a new individual we can accomplish that goal.

This summer, we participated in unprecedented marches nationwide. Yesterday, we marched and then we voted in record numbers. Although we made significant progress this year, we must remember to remain ever vigilant to protect the rights of immigrants and bring the discussion of immigration reform back to the table at the highest levels of decision-making in our country. In this and other efforts, we look forward to forming coalitions with other advocacy groups that fight for the rights of minority constituencies to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our immediate past National President, Hector Flores, the National Board, the many volunteers, national staff, corporations, government agencies, leaders and others that helped make this year's Annual LULAC National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin a major success. During this convention, the national assembly adopted several resolutions and a legislative platform that reflect the goals and wishes of the LULAC membership. I ask each member to focus your attention on the platform and resolutions and seek to find ways in which you can make a difference in your community.

In the few short months since I took on this important role, we have been very active seeking solutions to some major problems facing the Hispanic community. LULAC has fought for the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, orchestrated "get out the vote" activities nationwide leading to an increase in Hispanic voter turnout, worked on combating anti-immigration legislation on the local level, held the first Hispanic Veterans Summit in Puerto Rico to address the needs of our nation's veterans, signed 8 MOUs with federal agencies in order to recruit Hispanics and provide opportunities for students, we will continue pushing for comprehensive immigration reform among other issues. We are very concerned about the high Hispanic dropout rate and the low number of Hispanics that obtain college degrees. For this reason we have formed a partnership with the Alliance for Excellent Education to address this concern.

These are just a few of the items that I hope to tackle with your help during my presidency. In order to succeed, however, we will need your active involvement and support. We must continue to grow our membership and ensure that all LULAC members are actively engaged in helping their communities. We hope to renew old councils that are no longer active and expand our membership in more states.

For 78 years, LULAC has been fighting for Hispanics who are seeking opportunity and equal treatment under the law. Our struggle continues and our community needs us now more than ever before.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosa Rosales".

Rosa Rosales

Special Feature:

Peace Corps Director Gaddi Vasquez

By Ken Dalecki

"Hispanics who make it should give back to the community," said Gaddi H. Vasquez, former director of the U.S. Peace Corps during an interview with LULAC News in his office a block from LULAC's Washington, D.C., headquarters. Vasquez tried to do that when he lived in Orange County, Calif., and during his four years as the nation's 16th Peace Corps director.

In Orange County, where he served as county executive, Vasquez was a co-founder of a private scholarship fund that has raised more than \$2 million for Hispanic students to help pay for tuition at elementary and high schools, colleges and universities. As Peace Corps director, he has instituted an outreach program to recruit more Hispanic and other minority volunteers to serve in the 75 countries hosting Peace Corps programs.

Vasquez shares a major goal with LULAC President Rosa Rosales in wanting to reduce the high school dropout rate among Hispanics. During his tenure as Peace Corps director, Vasquez addressed numerous minority youth groups, urging students to stay in school and eventually consider serving in the Peace Corps.

"I think the dropout rate is one of the greatest threats to the Hispanic community, but it is also a threat to the nation because that is the labor force that will enter the market," he said. "And to be competitive we need an educated labor force."

"My mother saw education as the passage to having a meaningful and fulfilling life," said Vasquez, a native of Carrizo Springs, Texas, and the grandson of Mexican immigrants. His parents "believed that education is everything" for Gaddi and his brother, Ben. "Notwithstanding their inability to help us with homework, they inspired and motivated us," he said.

Vasquez lauded LULAC as "a forerunner" in boosting Hispanic educational attainment and he believes that increasing parental involvement in their children's education is the key to reducing the Hispanic dropout rate.

Like all but two of his predecessors as Peace Corps director, Vasquez was not a Peace Corps volunteer. But his early years were spent in what he calls third world conditions in a south Texas migrant farmer community. He keeps in his office a picture of himself with his father in front of their small house trailer as a reminder of his humble beginnings. His parents moved to Orange County, Calif., where he attended high school, became a

Continued on page 4.

“Hispanics who make it should give back to the community”

Continued from page 3.

police officer at age 19 and was the first in his family to graduate from college. Gov. George Deukmejian appointed Vasquez to



Peace Corps Director Gaddi H. Vasquez visiting Panama First Lady Vivian Torrijos and Peace Corps volunteers.

fill a vacancy on the Orange County Board of Supervisors and he went on to win two terms at the polls.

Like many Hispanics struggling for economic advancement, Vasquez said he never considered a two-year stint in the Peace Corps. “For many Hispanics, the challenge (to joining the Peace Corps) is economic,” he said. His first priority after he and his parents struggled to finance his college education was to “get a job.”

Vasquez brought his sensitivity to the economic concerns of minorities to his Peace Corps directorship. In trying to recruit more minorities for service, he stresses the value of Peace Corps experience in post-volunteer careers in the State Department, the Agency for International Development, private aid organizations and other development careers. He has also tried to improve job placement and job fair services for returned volunteers, and notes the college loan-forgiveness features of Peace Corps service.

When President George W. Bush nominated Vasquez for the Peace Corp job, he set as a goal the doubling of the number of volunteers to 12,000 by 2007. Although the number of volunteers has increased and is now at a 30-year high of 8,000, Bush will not meet his goal because congressional spending for the agency, while up substantially, is not up enough to support

12,000 volunteers.

Vasquez is proud of Peace Corps efforts to increase the number of minority volunteers by producing recruiting materials and public service announcements in Spanish, establishing an outreach program with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and speaking to Hispanic and other minority groups. “We have come to understand that there are unique ways to reach out to these communities,” he said.

Vasquez notes that the number of minority volunteers has increased 24% since he became director. That is slightly higher than the overall increase in the number of volunteers between 2002 and 2005. As a percentage of Peace Corps volunteers, minorities have increased from about 15% in 2002 to nearly 16% today. Since 1996 Hispanics have consistently accounted for 3% of volunteers. But outreach efforts being made today are likely to bear fruit in the future.

With substantial programs in South and Central America, the opportunities for Hispanic American volunteers are extensive. “Pre-existing language skills are a big plus,” said Vasquez, who is fluent in Spanish.

Such language skills served Vasquez well when he successfully negotiated with the government of Mexico for a Peace Corps program that started three years ago. Concluding a deal where others had failed is a source of “great personal satisfaction,” he said. The initial program, which focuses on science and technology, will soon be broadened to include a second agreement involving volunteers who will work on environmental programs.

The Peace Corps has sent a total of 182,000 volunteers to some 140 countries during its 45-year history. Volunteers are now serving in 75 countries and in 2007 the Peace Corps will send its first volunteers to Cambodia. Meanwhile a Peace Corps survey team is studying a request from Vietnam for volunteers.

Vasquez left the Peace Corps and was sworn in Sept. 7 as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy. It is an assignment he is likely to hold until the end of President Bush’s term in 2008. Vasquez said he has no plans beyond that, although he expects to return to Orange, Calif., where he maintains a home with his wife, Elaine, and son, Jason.

Vasquez conceded that a great source of satisfaction is hearing from people who initially opposed his nomination as Peace Corps director. “Some have said, ‘I wasn’t for you, but now I’m sad to see you leave,’” he said.

John Coyne, a Peace Corps veteran and co-founder of the Committee for the Future of the Peace Corps, testified before

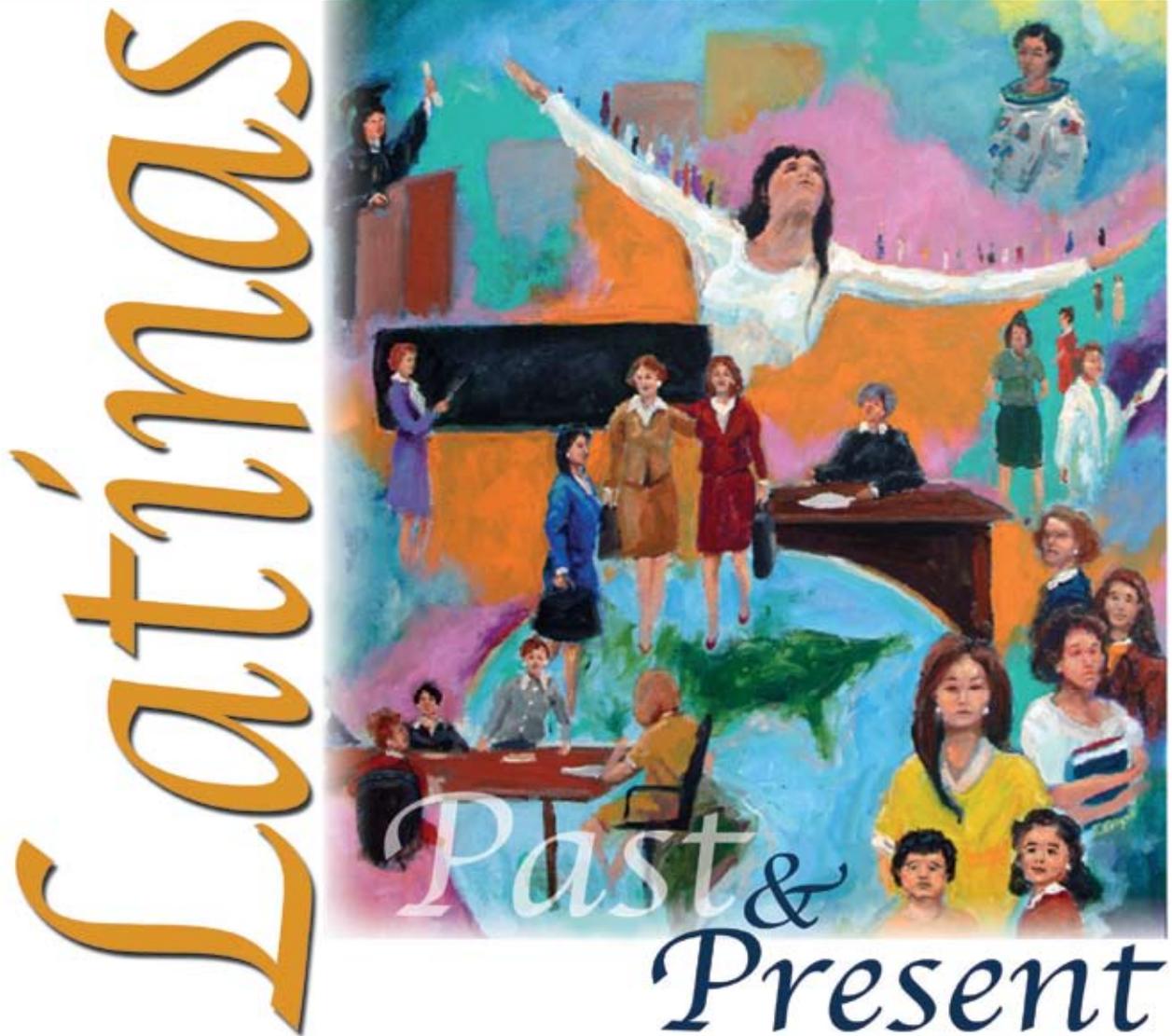


Peace Corps Director Gaddi H. Vasquez and Jaime Parada of the Capital Council of Science and Technology of Mexico at the signing ceremony establishing first Peace Corps program in Mexico.

the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 2001 against Vasquez’ conformation. The group contended that he lacked sufficient executive experience, had no international experience and was not a Peace Corp veteran. The committee recommended approving the nomination 14-4 and the Senate confirmed it by unanimous voice vote.

While Coyne feels Vasquez should have pushed harder for greater Peace Corps funding from Congress, he gives him credit for instituting new programs, especially the initiative with Mexico and improving technology within agency. “He represented the country well,” Coyne said.

In Celebration of Hispanic Heritage



ExxonMobil Fuels Marketing Salutes America's Latinas. Leaders in a Changing Society.

In history and today, Latinas have helped shape this nation and the world making their mark in science, education, aeronautics, law, labor, medicine, sports, government, and the arts. They represent the rich and diverse Hispanic culture with strong images of family, strength, determination and leadership.



Midwest Corner

Duneland Council Awards 9 Scholarships at Annual Event

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Duneland Council #5016 has selected nine outstanding students from this community to receive LULAC Scholarships.



LULAC Duneland council #5016 awards LULAC Scholarships to nine students.

The names of the 2006-2007 LULAC Scholarship recipients and the colleges and universities they will attend are as follows:

- Abby Collins – Purdue University North Central
- Andrea Fernandez – Purdue University Calumet
- Mayte Fernandez – Indiana University, Bloomington
- Elizabeth Gonzalez – Notre Dame University, South Bend
- Sarah Lipniskis – Saint Joseph’s Calumet College
- Renee Lipniskis - Purdue University, West Lafayette
- Curtis Mannen - Indiana University, Bloomington
- Alexandra Miller – Purdue University North Central
- Rosa Mungia-Arias – Indiana University Northwest

Farwest Corner

**LULAC KIDZ
PILOT DEMONSTRATION COUNCIL FORMED**

By John Arnold

For several years the rural LULAC Councils in Arizona and California have unofficially been experimenting with including upper elementary and middle school (ages 8-12) in LULAC activities .Currently LULAC’s membership age starts at 13½ years of age. The first group of “LULAC Kidz” as they are known was formed in the small rural town of Patagonia in Grayce Arnold’s kitchen, a long-time youth advocate.

Recently, Adult Council #1088 sponsored a group of 12 girls and 2 boys to organize their council and offer it as a national demonstration LULAC Kidz Council. It was anticipated that resolutions passed by the National Youth Board to change the LULAC constitution lowering the membership age would have been ratified by the National Assembly in Milwaukee.

However, when the constitutional change was to be voted on there was no longer a quorum of the National Assembly. Therefore, the idea of a “pilot demonstration” LULAC Council was put forth by Council 1088. The National Executive Board in Chicago approved the proposal for the pilot demonstration. It should be noted that the LULAC Kidz membership dues were paid and an insurance liability certificate naming LULAC was obtained. Proof was presented that the adult sponsors had federal I.D. background checks, since the “Kidz”

are underage. It will be exciting to see how this experimental project unfolds. Several National Board members as well as other youth service organizations will be asked to give us some input on issues that need to be addressed so that LULAC Kidz can receive permanent status. Inclusion of this younger age group is critical to LULAC’s future leadership and expansion. LULAC can meaningfully impact these young lives, encouraging them to stay in school, say no to drugs, and reject gangs and violence. In return LULAC will benefit from the vitality and energy this age group will bring to our organization as well as increased memberships that may stay with LULAC all their lives.



Dr. John Arnold with newly formed pilot program LULAC KIDZ Council.

LULAC SWEETHEART 2006

ISIMELYS VARGAS

The League of United Latin American Citizens believes that the key to economic



2006 LULAC Sweetheart Isimelys Vargas with her court.

freedom for Latinos is through excellence, education, and participation in the political process. LULAC, was founded in 1929, is the oldest and largest Hispanic American non-profit civic organization in the United States. It has more than 700 active councils within the states and also in the island of Puerto Rico.

LULAC Council #12113, targets Latinos in Massachusetts by helping them develop self-esteem, encouraging them to continue their education and stay in school, instruct them about the important of political participation, and promote their involvement in voter registration/naturalization drives.

Council #12113 has considered education to be its number one priority throughout the years. They have given over \$100,000 since 1997 to the present.

Local LULAC Council #12113 is seeking corporate partners who want to be good corporate citizens and who are interested in expanding their share with the fast growing consumer segment in the United States and in Massachusetts.

We have already begun our scholarship fundraising efforts Nov. 4, 2006 with our Scholarship Preliminaries Sweetheart 2007, taking place at the Holiday Inn in Dedham beginning at 6 p.m.

On behalf of the members of our council and the community we serve, we thank you in advance for your

future contributions. I know that your sponsorship will make a difference in the lives of Hispanics. Do not hesitate to contact Toulá Politis Lugo our National VP for the Northeast at ToulapT@aol.com. Annabelle Guerra our State Director at annabelleg83@aol.com. You can also contact the Scholarship Chair Regla González at 617-327-6760 or e-mail her at reglag@aol.com

Northeast Corner

students who have recently graduated college and are continuing their education in a college/university in Massachusetts. Joining them at the ceremony were several local community leaders including State Representative William Lantigua, City Councilor-at-Large Felix Arroyo, and Lt. Governor Kerry Healey, who served as the guest speaker. Also in attendance were Lucas Guerra, CEO of Argus Communication and past scholarship recipient Karina Duran. This year's recipients of the LULAC



Sara Barrientos, District Director, Nelly Manche State Treasurer, Kerry Healey, Lt. Governor, Katherine Bringas, Sweetheart LULAC 2004 and Regla Gonzalez Past National VP Northeast.

Annual LULAC Scholarship Award

In July LULAC Massachusetts had its annual scholarship Award ceremony at the Massachusetts State House. This year six scholarships were offered to



Sara Barrientos, District Director, Regla Gonzalez, Past National VP for the Northeast, newly elected National VP for the Northeast, Toulá Politis Lugo and Annabelle Guerra, LULAC Massachusetts State Director with Scholarship recipients.

Scholarship include (listed in order as they appear in the picture) Katherine Bringas (Framingham State College), Stacy Diaz (Smith College), Janet Gonzalez (Suffolk University), Jennifer Jerez (Simmons College), Rocio Jorge (Mass Bay College), and Alejandra Orellana (UMass Boston). LULAC Massachusetts has worked tirelessly for over 10 years to promote education through all levels, including civic participation. It has succeeded in given over \$100,000 in scholarships to deserving Latino youth during the last 10 years.

Southwest Corner

V.P. for the Southwest Adrian Rodriguez held a summit with 5 State Directors in Dallas, Texas.



photo by Luis Nuño Briones

An historic event took place on Nov. 11th when LULAC Vice President for the Southwest, Adrian Rodriguez convened the State Directors for the Southwest Region for a meeting in Dallas. The purpose of the retreat was finding common issues to address, initiating better means of communication and establishing goals for the region. In attendance were Carlos Cervantes, Arkansas State Director; Tom Duran, Colorado State Director, Paul Martinez, New Mexico State Director, Adrian Rodriguez VP for the Southwest, Roger Rocha, Texas State Director and Ray Madrid, Oklahoma State Director.

Gay LULAC Elects New Board



Standing (left to right) Parliamentarian Cesar Reyna, Treasurer Zhyla Alvarado and Secretary Jesse Garcia. Sitting (left to right) Vice President Patricia Mancha and President Oscar Gutierrez.

On Nov. 28, the nation's first-ever Gay LULAC council elected its 2007 board and adopted its mission statement.

Oscar Gutierrez was elected president of the organization. Gutierrez hopes to grow the nation's only LULAC chapter made up of mainly gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Latinos.

The successful chapter, launched on June 12 by former President Hector Flores in Dallas (the day after LULAC came out against the Federal Marriage Amendment being considered in Congress), has also attracted straight allies and non-Latino supporters to take up Hispanic rights.

For more information, visit www.gaylulac.org.

Southeast Corner

1st LULAC/CPP Hispanic American Veterans Affairs Summit



Photo by Miguel Riosa/The San Juan Star

Special Assistant to the LULAC President, Elia Mendoza, LULAC National President, Rosa Rosales and VP of the Southeast Haydee Rivera, attend the prayer visual at the San Francisco Church.

LULAC, American GI Forum and ASPIRA partners with the Department of Veterans Affairs' Community Prosperity Partnership (CPP), put on by LULAC Puerto Rico Chapter in San Juan Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 2006. Attendees numbered in the thousands. Represented were local government agencies and private sector participants who addressed issues involving Hispanic veterans.

The summit convened national leaders, LULAC members, Veterans Affairs, federal and local government agencies and private sectors. The summit discussed veterans issues, set policy, and put forth solutions to help Hispanic American veterans. The summit provided information and tools to help veterans and their families integrate into the community.

More than 200,000 Puerto Ricans have served in the armed forces and benefited from the event. There were three days of seminars, plenary sessions, a job fair, and an opportunity expo along with federal agencies showcasing important information on employment and training, benefits and services, and business opportunities. The program included a special mass at the San Francisco Church in Old San Juan in honor of the fallen Puerto Rican soldiers.

The next LULAC veterans summit will be held Aug. 7, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas.

Northwest Corner



Maria D. Rodriguez-Salazar at a press conference in Kennewick, Washington, city offices.

Líderes!

Los líderes hispanos de hoy, hombres y mujeres comunes y corrientes que en los momentos más difíciles han tenido el valor para vencer obstáculos y limitaciones, han logrado mejorar las condiciones de nuestra comunidad introduciendo cambios sociales y ofreciendo oportunidades económicas. En Coors reconocemos y apoyamos la importancia de tu liderazgo en el hogar y en tu comunidad. Tu participación es importante, ¡involúcrate con tu familia y con tu comunidad!

*Nuestra Comunidad
tiene muchos Líderes*



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Notice to LULAC Councils seeking to bid for the right to host the LULAC National Convention

In accordance with the LULAC Constitution:

- Any local Council or group of Councils in good standing may bid for the right to host the National Convention.
- Bids to host the National Convention will be submitted to the National Board of Directors during their February meeting, and shall include final information regarding adequacy of hotel, convention, and transportation facilities, as well as other information requested by the Board.
- The board will name a three-person Committee to evaluate the sites and report at the National Convention.
- The Convention Site Committee will present a report of their evaluation of each of the cities who have submitted a bid immediately prior to opening the floor for nomination site.
- Only those cities which have been considered by the Convention Site Committee may be nominated.
- The National Assembly will select the Convention site by majority vote.

If you do not provide all of the information required, (refer to Article 2 Conventions Section 2 of the Constitution), your bid will not be accepted.

During the December 2006 meeting of the LULAC National Executive Committee, it was determined that the date of the February meeting will be February 9 and 10 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The board also clarified that bidding councils must present a complete bid at the February meeting which should include the host hotels and convention facilities and their rates. It was further determined that the block of rooms offered to LULAC must be at the government per diem rate or less and in any case must not be more than \$135 per night or the bid will not be considered by the National Board.

Potential host councils should use the LULAC National Convention Group Profile found at <http://www.lulac.org/events/conventionprofile.html> and work with their local convention and visitors bureaus to put together their bids.

National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

By Erika Romo

Founded in 1996, the non-profit National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy strives to improve the well-being of children, teens, families and communities by reducing the teen pregnancy rate. By 2015, the campaign hopes to reduce the teen pregnancy rate in the U.S. by one-third.

Erika Vexler, the organization's vice president, told a panel discussion at the 2006 LULAC National Convention that her organization emphasizes grassroots programs. At the Health Crisis: Towards the Development of a Proactive Latino Agenda Panel held on June 29th, Ms. Vexler said the organization works with community members to initiate programs at the local level.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy also works with the entertainment industry to shape the cultural messages that influence today's teens.

Latino Teens and Sex: De Eso No Se Habla (That Is Not Spoken Of)

According to Ms. Vexler, although the teen pregnancy rate has decreased in the last 10 years, 51% of Latinas become pregnant at least once before the age of 20. The Latina teen pregnancy rate has decreased the least among all ethnic and racial groups.

In conjunction with Latina Magazine,

the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy surveyed 184 teenagers and 153 parents from across the nation. The results demonstrated that Latino parents underestimate the sexual involvement of their teens. Only 30% of the parents surveyed thought their children had been sexually active, while 47% of the teens said they were sexually experienced. Although 78% of the teenagers said they lie to their parents or do not talk to them about their sex lives, 58% of parents presumed that their teens are honest about their sexual involvement. The survey shows the disconnect between Latino parents and their teens on teen sexual involvement.

Unfortunately, "de eso no se habla" (that is not spoken of) is too often the approach to Latino teens and sex.

LULAC recognizes that teen pregnancies affect not only Latina teens, but also Latino teens, families and the community. LULAC is joining with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen

Pregnancy to heighten awareness within the community in the prevention of teen pregnancies. In light of the apparent divide between Latino parents and their teens, LULAC encourages parents and teens to speak openly, honestly and clearly with each other on this subject.



Sex Survey Findings

47% of the teens surveyed said they were sexually experienced.

30% of parents thought their kids had been sexually active.

78% of teens said they either don't talk to their parents about their sex lives, or they lie about it.

58% of parents believe their kids are being honest with them about sex.

68% of teens said they do not share their parents' values about sex.

About 68% of parents think their kids share their sexual values.

Nine out of 10 teens surveyed said it is not okay to get pregnant or get someone pregnant as a teen.

Half of the sexually experienced teens surveyed said they have had sex without using contraception.

Half of the teens surveyed said the right time to lose your virginity is "when you are in love."

One-third of sexually experienced teens said they have had at least one one-night stand.

Source: The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy press release, April 12, 2006.

United with a Purpose

Cristina Saralegui and Diageo Come Together to Benefit the Hispanic Community

Diageo, the world's leading premium drinks company, in partnership with Cristina Saralegui, a 30-year veteran journalist and leading Hispanic advocate, have launched the "Estamos Unidos con un Propósito" campaign in seven major Hispanic markets. This campaign offers Latinos a unique opportunity to invest in their future by voting to donate \$250,000 to organizations dedicated to improving Hispanics' overall quality of life in the areas of education, health care, and employment. With the "Estamos Unidos con un Propósito" campaign, Diageo continues to create multicultural programs that inspire community involvement amongst consumers.

A first for Diageo, the campaign will feature eight of its leading brands, including Crown Royal Canadian whisky, Johnnie Walker Scotch whisky, Smirnoff vodka, Captain Morgan rum, Jose Cuervo Tradicional tequila, Dulceda Dulce de Leche liqueur, Buchanan's De Luxe Scotch whisky and Don Julio tequila.

"This campaign is in keeping with Diageo's commitment to support programs that directly benefit the Hispanic community," said Virginia Sanchez, Diageo Vice-President for Multicultural Corporate Relations. "We are delighted to have Cristina Saralegui involved with this initiative. Cristina, a respected voice to many Hispanics in the United States and around the world, will urge consumers to vote for their preferred organization, thereby empowering them to make a difference in their communities," Sanchez added. "Diageo,

through its brands, wants to be part of the solution on issues that are relevant to Hispanics."

The three charitable organizations include LULAC; the Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF), a not-for-profit organization that celebrates the outstanding achievements of Hispanic-American leaders and promotes

responsibility to engage and make our voices heard."

Estamos Unidos con un Propósito™ is a multi-faceted campaign that incorporates various promotional elements to facilitate the voting process. The point of sale materials can be found at retail stores in New York, California, Texas, Florida, New Jersey,



(Left to Right) Marisa Ramirez de Arellano, COO Hispanic Heritage Foundation; Maribel Viteri, Diageo Multicultural Marketing Brand Manager; José Antonio Tijerino- President & CEO Hispanic Heritage Foundation, Sandra Gonzalez, LULAC New Jersey Chapter President; Cristina Saralegui, respected journalist and leading Hispanic advocate; Marcos Avila, Up with Life Foundation and Virginia Sanchez, Vice-President for Diageo Multicultural Corporate Relations; at Tribeca Rooftop in New York City, for the closing event of Estamos Unidos con un Propósito™ campaign.

the next generation of role models, and Cristina Saralegui's Arriba la Vida/Up With Life Foundation, a private organization dedicated to HIV/AIDS awareness and education among Hispanics. LULAC, HHF, and Up with Life are all 501 (c) (3) charitable organizations.

"One of my greatest passions in life is to support important initiatives like Estamos Unidos con un Propósito™ that recognize the valuable role these organizations play in communities across our country," said Cristina Saralegui. "As Hispanics, we have a

responsibility to engage and make our voices heard." Arizona, and Illinois where Diageo brands are sold. Program components include voice-activated case cards that consumers can press to hear Cristina's voice inviting them to vote; counter cards with tear pads, and stamped self addressed mail-in brochures.

For more information about Diageo, its people, brands and performance, visit us at <http://www.diageo.com>.

BRAIN IMAGING STUDY ON ALZHEIMER'S UNDERWAY

Largest, Most Comprehensive Study of Its Kind

The National Institutes of Health is seeking men and women between the ages of 55 and 90 to participate in a landmark research study called the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative. It is the largest and most comprehensive study of its kind, involving 58 clinical sites across the country.

The goal of the initiative is to speed up the search for treatments and cures for Alzheimer's disease by seeing whether imaging of the brain, through magnetic resonance imaging or positron emission tomography scans, every six months can help predict and monitor the onset and progression of Alzheimer's. In addition, samples of blood and, for some participants, cerebral spinal fluid will be collected and tested to determine if these biomarkers can predict and monitor the disease. It is hoped that imaging techniques and biomarkers will prove useful in testing the effectiveness of new therapies in slowing the progression of Alzheimer's or preventing the disease altogether.

Alzheimer's disease affects one in 10 Americans over the age of 65. By the year 2050, 13 million Americans may suffer from the disease.

Researchers are looking for people who are in good general health with no memory problems, or are in good general health but have memory problems or concerns, or have a diagnosis of mild cognitive impairment or early Alzheimer's disease.

For more information about the study, please contact the NIA's Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center at 800-438-4380 or visit www.alzheimers.org/imagine. Spanish-language capabilities are available at some of the study sites. Many study sites are in state with substantial Hispanic populations, including California, Arizona, Nevada, Texas, Florida, Illinois and New York.



ONE-STOP MEMBERSHIP DRIVE NETS 112 APPLICATIONS

By Dr. John Arnold

Consider setting up a membership table or booth whenever your council has a fiesta, fundraiser, or participate in a community event or meeting.

LULAC President Rosa Rosales and Dr. John David Arnold, President of LULAC Council #1088, tried an experiment to see how this might work. They conducted a "one stop membership" recruitment effort recently at the national convention of the Association of Farmworker Opportunities Program (AFOP) in Alexandria, VA. President Rosales was the keynote speaker and attendees included staff from 80 major Latino farm worker job training programs in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. The LULAC membership booth was just outside the main assembly hall. The booth had a LULAC banner, membership applications, photo album, LULAC News magazines, copies of the LULAC constitution and other materials. LULAC volunteers who manned the booth and answered questions from prospective members included President Rosales, Dr. Arnold, Brent Wilkes, Elia Mendoza, Lizette J. Olmos. The result was 112 new LULAC membership applications, a one-day record!!



LULAC's future depends on current members being aggressive in signing up new members. Consider what successful recruitment activities can do for our councils. New member replace natural attrition among older members, bring new vitality to councils, expand the base of LULAC operations and result in new councils.

Some of the applicants at the AFOP convention were from the Carolinas, Dakotas, New York, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and Washington, D.C. They expressed interest in starting councils in their areas where there are growing Latino populations. Tools available to help organizers include videos on LULAC's history, programs and recruitment. Contact Dr. Arnold at jarnold@ppep.org for videos or further information on this recruitment model.

Fantasy Congress

We, the creators of Fantasy Congress, believe that the foundation of a healthy democracy is an educated and engaged populace (that's why we created Fantasy Congress!). Nevertheless, your education does not stop at our website, but continues by participating in your state and local government, and especially exercising your right to vote in a representative democracy.



What is Fantasy Congress?
<http://fantasycongress.com>

Fantasy Congress™ offers you the power to “play politics.” As in other fantasy sports, you - the Citizen - draft a team of real-life legislators from the U.S. Congress and score points for your team's successes. Join a league and compete against other Citizens, or form a league of your own! Play against your friends, family, bloggers, fellow politicians, or even a sitting U.S. Senator (one could be playing incognito, you never know!). On weekends, move Members of Congress into your active line-up or off your team to strategize for the upcoming week of legislation!

Educators, Fantasy Congress are the perfect tool for bringing home the process of legislation and the role of Congress to your students. Our database is the largest and broadest of its kind, and is updated daily. At the intersection of all of this information, students follow legislation precisely, monitor members of Congress of their own choice, and best of all compete with their friends in the game, in a classroom league or in informal leagues of their own design.

Now that you know what it is, make your

decision: Watch politics or play politics.

Join the LULAC National Youth League! Jessica Martinez, New Mexico Youth Director has formed the “LULAC National Youth” Fantasy Congress League. If you are interested and want to learn more about the House of Representatives, and willing to put your knowledge & research skills to use, contact Ms. Martinez at btrflyjess@yahoo.com

“What a better way to learn about the House of Representatives in D.C. utilizing “real information” based on their Congressional performance while having fun,” states Javier Montanez, National Vice-President for Youth.

LULAC Youth Get Out the Vote Drive



Above (L-R) are Bobby Morales and Joseph Fimbres. LULAC Youth and Young Adults were working on their “Get Out the Vote” (GOTV) project in Tucson, Arizona. In addition they are working on the Latino Vote Plus project. These Young Adults have also been trained to be instructors in the TUSD Links Project that works to educate students, parents and community members on the importance of education and keeping our children in school. “One of our objectives for the National Board was to get our youth & young adults involved in voting, they have responded,” states Javier Montanez, National VP for Youth.

National LULAC Youth Volleyball Slam



LULAC Youth from all over the country will hold its 3rd Annual National LULAC Youth Volleyball Slam in Fort Worth, Texas. For additional information, contact Mr. Alberto Govea goveaat@yahoo.com

Operation Tortilla

Another 2 boxes of tortillas are on their way to Iraq. Each box has 10-dozen tortillas for each of the two soldiers. They should get there by the end of the week. I need names and addresses of members of the Armed Forces for the Christmas shipment.



Over 830 dozen tortillas have been shipped to our service friends in Iraq, Kuwait, and Germany.

For more information, contact Larry Luera Past State Director LULAC California luckyLarry77@earthlink.net

Housing Commission Holds Fall Seminars

The LULAC National Housing Commission continued to break down the barriers to homeownership that prevent Hispanics from achieving the dream of homeownership through the Home Buyer Education Program. The 2006 season featured Home Buyer Seminars in Chicago, Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, Boston, San Antonio, Houston, El Paso, Ft. Worth, Milwaukee, Cleburne, Miami and Dallas.

Without readily available bilingual resources that can be trusted, Hispanic homebuyers, often fall prey to predatory lending practices and are at risk for foreclosures. Home Buyer Seminars are bilingual and free, helping to overcome the common language barriers facing many of them. By attending a homebuyer seminar, a potential homebuyer can be informed on credit and budgeting, responsibilities of being a home owner, how to obtain a loan, how to select good real estate agents and other suppliers. A well-educated homebuyer has a better chance of remaining a homeowner.

A major campaign launched by GMAC and Freddie Mac featured Home Buyer Seminars in Phoenix, Tucson and Chicago. The campaign included media, direct mail, telemarketing and street teams. Relationships have been developed with Chicanos Por La Causa in Arizona and the Resurrection Project in Chicago to provide credit counseling and other services. The seminars were held on Sept. 23, Oct. 14 and Oct. 28.

State Farm Bank sponsored 4 seminars in the Chicago area from September 9th through December 3rd. Working with LULAC Council 5211 and Neighborhood Services of Chicago, the seminars aimed at first time home buyers in need of specialized mortgage loan products and related services.

Wells Fargo announced a nine homebuyer seminar series that included El Paso, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Tucson. Dates

were announced on the Housing Commission's web site www.lulachousing.com.

Additional seminars are being scheduled in Milwaukee, Cleburne, Miami, Los Angeles and Oklahoma City.

LULAC Councils have responded to the Housing Commission's invitation to join the

campaign to increase homeownership among Hispanics and defend our community against predatory practices. Housing programs are being started in Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Cleburne, Texas.

If you are interested in working with the Housing Commission and hosting a Home Buyer Seminar, please contact the Housing Commission at 214-750-8194.



Tyson Foods congratulates Rosa Rosales on her election as national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens. We wish her great success in moving the organization forward, and we are grateful for the many benefits LULAC brings to our company and to communities across the nation.



Powered by



Tribute

Luciano Rodriguez "Chano"

By Lizette J. Olmos



Q: When and where were you born?

A: Born in Monterrey Mexico on March 5, 1925. Married to Esther Rodriguez and have three sons named Luciano Rodriguez Jr., Armando Rodriguez, and Javier Rodriguez.

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: Past 50 years

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: The Bonilla brothers are three brothers that I met through LULAC.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: Manuel Gonzalez is my mentor. He is one of the greatest Presidents that LULAC has had personally. He tended to the problems of the organization and taking action.

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: In 1956 we did not have any lawyers and doctors and that is why I joined LULAC because of the discrimination. I have an office with LULAC in 1957 in Weslaco .

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: We are living in country where we have to obey the laws and we have to have a good reform on immigration. There are a lot of people suffering right now and a lot of people are out of work. We have a lot of problems.

Q: What is your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: We have lots of members because every year we have conventions and I am involved

in working on local issues. I have been fighting here on issues in the Valley. We had problems with work labor and I assisted Cesar Chavez on numerous occasions. We have been fighting with the city administration on different things.

Q: What are the activities you are involved in?

A: I have been working on organizing events

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: I have been very involved in the community and giving back for the last 50 years.

Q: What do you do when not with LULAC?

A: Since when I was young I would belong to different organizations but since I joined LULAC it is the one that I am most proud of. I have my own business. I used to run grocery store and now have a used furniture store. I am retired but still working full-time on my business.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: The immigration problem has been very bad.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: We have been accomplishing a lot of things. Fighting injustices sometimes from our own people.

Q: What do you feel still needs to be addressed this year?

A: The most important thing for me is

immigration. Once we fix the problem we will have more to work with. I have been working in this country all of my life. In this part of the country we are 80% Mexican American. LULAC should focus on addressing comprehensive immigration reform. We have to deal with it now. We need to pressure the government to do something. The elected officials argue but need to come up with a solution. The organization is doing its job but needs to do more. We should act more directly with the President and focus on the problems and go out and solve the problem. We say that we are contributors of Cesar Chavez but just with voices and we need action. We need to leadership to take a more active approach so that those underneath have direction to follow.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: The message I want is that we do not get down but stay together and keep moving forward. LULAC is not just me and the President. If we want change we all have to contribute. We have done a lot but we need to keep working together. We have to act and keep moving forward with the organization and face the challenges ahead. I have worked for 50 years and I am proud that everyone that is in LULAC does their job. It is not one person's job but every Latino. I am counting all Hispanics.

Profile



Matilda Martinez Garcia

Q: When and where were you born?
A: In Tampa, Fla. on May 30, 1919.

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: I found records back to 1950. I was the second individual to be listed in the Lifetime Membership.

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: I admire the Democrats and my brothers and sisters.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: Anita is a big part of it and I have had so many.

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: I have always believed in equal rights and I was in a position where I could help Hispanics. When people came in not many spoke English and I would offer translations. I thought LULAC was up my alley and it was the right thing to do. I worked for SS district office for 43 years.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: I always think of EEO to improve ourselves. I was the chair of the EEO. The Matilda Martinez Garcia Total Commitment Award is given out annually.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: When I received the Presidential citation medal from Hector Flores the immediate Past National President. I had stepped out to the ladies room and that was when the President announced my name to come up to the stage. Nobody knew where I was and how to

get to me in time. After a few minutes went by someone else from the council went up to the stage to retrieve the medal. Someone later found me and rushed to give me the medal. I was honored to have received it and it was unexpected that I missed going up on stage to receive it.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: If it has the name Hispanic, I am in it. I am on 28 boards and active on all 28. I do it all personally. I hardly have time to sleep as I get up at 5:30 a.m. and go to sleep at 3:30 a.m. I am fortunate that I do not require much sleep. I am an Honorary Member of the Hispanic Professional Women, Board of Directors of Hispanic Heritage where I was the Women of the Year in 1992, Founding Member of the Hispanic Services Council, Salvation Army Secretary on the board, United Way Fund Distribution Committee. When my grandfather came to Tampa there were only 29 families present at the time and my grandfather was the founding member of Centro Español. My aunts and uncles were Presidents of the Centro Español. He came with two little girls and he was a pioneer

which has set the stage for the rest of the pioneers in the family to follow in his footsteps. The Mati Award is named after me and it is an annual scholarship and dinner hosted by LULAC. I am most proud of that.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: I think you have to put yourselves in the followers shoes and be empathetic with them. A leader has to depend on the followers. You would not be a leader if you do not have followers. I convince myself that it is the right thing to do. People feel that I am able to help them in some way and believe in me.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: I am involved in the church as well. I love to travel and have been to China, Spain, Rio de Janeiro, Finland, Russia, Finland, Peru, Chile etc.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: The elections. I was very involved in the elections.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: I am a role model and people want to be like me.

Q: What do you feel still needs to be addressed this year?

A: The immigration policies are a fiasco. Something needs to be done.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: Believe in what you do, be sincere, think of the other people that do not have the advantages you have.

Profile

By Lizette J. Olmos

Q: When and where were you born?
A: August 8, 1948 in Moline, Ill. My hometown is Silvis, but I grew up in East Moline. I've been married to Susan for 39 years. I have four children and three grandchildren.

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: 25 years

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: I would say my paternal grandparents, my parents, my Dad's brothers and sister.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: I have several including some of the LULAC Council 10 founders, and the Founders of the GI Forum in Moline. Also the members of the VFW-Ybarra-Gomez Post 8898 East Moline, and the Q.C. Mexican American Organization.

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: I met Paula Martinez, the State Director for Iowa LULAC, in 1980 at the Iowa State Democratic Convention. She later spoke at the September 16th Fiesta and asked me if I was a member of LULAC. I said no, so she paid my dues.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: Educating Latinos on voting. "Su voto es su voz" I believe that more we vote in any election, we become a voting block to be reckoned with and make a difference.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: Three years ago at LULAC Congressional Banquet in DC I met my 8th Medal of Honor winner.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: At age 21, I was elected to my church's Parish Council. Three years later I was elected to the school board. I spent 14 years on the school board, 15 years on the PTA and as chairman for the Parent Advisory Council for the Catholic and Private School District of Chapter 1, Title 1 programs covering K-12. I served in the local and state Board of Directors of the ACLU for 8 years. I was the first elected Hispanic in the city of Davenport. I was the 8th elected Hispanic public official in



the state of Iowa. I was the first elected Hispanic in a city with over 100,000 in the state of Iowa. I was the 23rd elected Hispanic in the U.S. in a city with over 100,000. I have been a social, peace, and environmental activist most of my life.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: Listening to people: senior citizens, veterans, young people, young adults and all different viewpoints. This way you can get a consensus to make a good decision to solve any problem.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: I have been retired for 5 years and became a mentor to other politicians, especially Hispanics. I speak in front of kids at schools and teach them about values and how to succeed in life. After 1987, we got 28 additional Hispanics to run for office in the Quad City area. Almost all of them won. Another mentor was my Uncle Joe Terronez. He was elected to the city council in Silvis IL in 1967. In 1990, he was the first Hispanic mayor in the state of Illinois.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you this year?

A: The midterm elections because of the issue of immigration and how discriminatory that single issue has become in this country. Hopefully, we changed some of the attitudes on immigration. We worked with candidates who were pro-immigration.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: I always told my kids look at all the things I accomplished. Imagine what I could have done if I was smart. But after

Gilbert "G.G." Sierra

meeting several U.S. presidents, world leaders and Presidential candidates of both parties, educators and other public officials, it offends me that they would do something I would never do. They hurt poor people, senior citizens, women, children, veterans, and Mother Earth. I have a deep sense of community, and feel that people should not hurt those who cannot defend themselves. So thank God I have stayed stupid.

Q: What do you feel still needs to be addressed this year?

A: I think the overall issue has to deal with the problem in Iraq and needs to be resolved quickly. Instead of putting \$70 billion a month into the war, we can put that into education, national health care reform, a prescription drug programs, finding alternatives to fossil fuels and help reduce our national deficit, which would help everyone, especially the middle class.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: Get involved and join LULAC and become politically active in your community. Educate yourself on all issues. Whether it is political action organizations or community organizations get involved, because we need it. We always say "mañana" but it should start today. In fact we should have started yesterday. We are the fastest growing population, but we are behind, and economically we're still not there.

1. If you know any undocumented immigrants, help them become U.S. citizens. Tell them to live a lawful way of life. Tell their kids to stay in school, stay off drugs, and don't join gangs. Be good law-abiding citizens.

2. Get involved with your community early. I was on the Parish Council at age 21. I was on the school board at 24. Never say "I do not have time". You have to make time. I was 35 and on the city council and I should have started at 28. I would rather give up all my accomplishments to have young people to get involved early with "ganas". "Si se puede", and again never say "you never have enough time". There are no "mañanas".

Profile

By Lizette J. Olmos

Q: When and where were you born?

A: I was born May 16, 1933 in Ventura, Calif.

Q: How long have you been involved with LULAC?

A: Since November 15, 1952.

Q: Who do you admire most?

A: My parents. My father was involved in community service and he got me involved.

Q: Who is your mentor?

A: I have a lot of mentors.

Q: What made you want to get involved with LULAC?

A: When I married my husband he was already involved in LULAC. The ladies of LULAC would tell him to get me to sign up. I had an 8 month old baby boy at the time and I did not think I had a lot in common with them. They kept insisting and one day volunteered my home to host a council meeting. My husband looked at me and told me to join. We arranged for it to only include local activities. I grew up knowing the organization and what I could do and help the people.

Q: What do you think is one of the most important issues affecting Latinos today?

A: There are so many and our people need help. We have to set the example and be there. God brought us into this world to share.

Q: What was your most memorable LULAC moment?

A: During the time that I joined LULAC our council had a lot of rules. You had to learn the prayer, constitution and had to speak about what you like and do not like about the organization. I have had every office except National President. I



photo by Luis Nunez Briones

never campaigned, I just worked. They elect me so I do my job.

Q: What are the activities that you are involved in?

A: Right now I am on the Women's Commission, LNES board and recently retired from the CA LULAC Educational Foundation. I had been the chair for 16 years. I was with the foundation since 1989. I have my own Council in Stanton. I have been with the council since I started.

Q: What is an important leadership characteristic?

A: You have to have commitment, dedication and believe in what you are doing.

Q: What do you do when you are not with LULAC?

A: I have an office in my home and belong to MANA and many other groups. I received the Mexico Otli Award and I was in shock that they knew about me. The award committee knew that I raised a lot of money for Latinos so awarded it to me. I have received awards from President Clinton, Bush Sr. and Bush Jr. and Dr. Anita Del Rio Award. The biggest part for me is helping and I am preparing toys for the kids for Christmas.

Q: What has been the biggest impact on you

Glafira "Vera" Marquez

this year?

A: Being able to serve my people. My father said not to forget who you are and help your people.

Q: What are you most proud of accomplishing?

A: My family support. I have had many people support everything we do. The blessings I have from people. Never lose faith. Things always turn out well.

Q: What do you feel still needs to be addressed this year?

A: Immigration issues all over the world and Medicare for the older people.

Q: What is your message to those reading this?

A: Find a little time to share and support. A little goes far. We need to help one another. It does not cost money being able to share what God has given you. I feel rich with health and friends. All of the students that I have given awards to I have tracked and they are doing well.

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



President Rosa Rosales presented the Presidential Citation to Mechill Coel for her work on Katrina relief efforts at the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs.



photo by Luis Nuño Briones

Vice President for Women Margaret Moran, Deputy District Director for district 15 Lydia Martinez Deputy District Director, Chief of Staff Angie Garcia along with attendees at the Texas Governor's Women's Conference in Austin, Texas.



photo by Luis Nuño Briones

National Vice President for Women Margaret Moran (l) and Cheryl Brown from Coca-Cola in Fort Worth, Texas at the Texas Governor's Women's Conference in Austin, Texas.

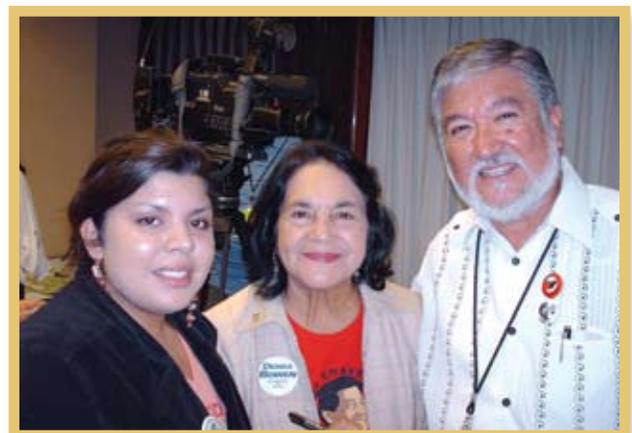


photo by Luis Nuño Briones

Coca-Cola delegation attendees the Texas Governor's Women's Conference in Austin, Texas.



LULAC Youth at the National Latino Congreso in Los Angeles, Calif.



LULAC Treasurer Jaime Martinez with activist Dolores Huerta (center) and LULAC Youth member Jessica Martinez at the National Latino Congreso in Los Angeles, Calif.

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE LEAGUE



(l to r) Lizette Jenness Olmos, LULAC Communications Director, Mickey Ibarra, President and CEO Mickey Ibarra and Associates, LULAC National President Rosa Rosales, and B. Keith Fulton, Vice President for Strategic Alliances for Verizon.



LULAC officials with Verizon sponsor B. Keith Fulton, Vice President for Strategic Alliances.



Women's Commission members.



Women's Commission at work in Washington, DC.



LULAC National President Rosa Rosales with U.S. Treasurer Anna Cabral.



Board members visit the office of Senator Diane Feinstein, D-CA., in Washington, DC.

POLICY and Legislation

Immigration Policy: Where Are We Today?

By Erika Romo

The 2006 LULAC Convention entitled “Latinos Impacting the Americas” focused on issues of key concern to the Hispanic community, including immigration. Immigration policy is a controversial issue, which has created a rift in the fabric of this nation. It raises important questions about our national identity, our future and current economy and our national security.

On June 30th the convention addressed this issue in a seminar entitled “Immigration Policy: Where Are We Today?” This panel discussed proposed changes to current immigration policy and examined the best strategies for passing legislation that protects the nation and creates a balanced and humane approach to immigration.

Mickey Ibarra, President of Mickey Ibarra and Associates moderated the panel discussion attended by some 120 conventioners. Mr. Ibarra has more than 20 years of intergovernmental experience, having served as the White House Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and as political manager for the National Education Association.

Margaret Donnelly, policy expert and author, said claims that undocumented workers have taken American jobs needs to be examined more closely. She called attention to how “the unemployment rate has not changed significantly since 9/11, even with new restrictions on immigration.” She does not believe that undocumented

immigrants have taken jobs away from American citizens.

Jaime Contreras, chair of the SEIU Local 82, has long been involved in social justice issues in Washington, D.C. He said that as Latinos “we have shown strength in numbers and our economic power, but we need to show our voting power.” Mr. Contreras encouraged seminar attendees to get others to register and vote.

MALDEF Interim President John Trasviña stressed the importance of granting citizenship to law-abiding resident who “have contributed with their labor, pay taxes and are learning English.” He stressed the need to enact the DREAM Act because

“students are blocked from their future in this country; meanwhile, the tax payments of their parents are not getting them anywhere.”

Ana Avedaño, Associate General Counsel of AFL-CIO, said there is no public policy reason to filled job with temporary workers. She added that if temporary workers are hired, they should have equal rights.

Peter Schey, Executive Director of the Center for Human Rights, expressed disappointment in congressional efforts at immigration reform. According to Mr. Schey, the proposed immigration reform includes a no-tolerance policy, which would make any immigrant ineligible to apply for a visa if he or she had used a false social security number. He said the citizenship process for an immigrant is too lengthy and expressed disapproval of provisions that permit indefinite detention of immigrants and support interior enforcement of immigration laws.

Although LULAC finds H.R. 4437 and S. 2611 to be significantly flawed, LULAC considers the bills as noteworthy for embracing the concept of bringing out of the shadows the millions of undocumented persons who work and live in the U.S.

LULAC calls upon Congress and the President to uphold America’s tradition as a nation of immigrants and enact comprehensive immigration reform that allows hard-working immigrants and their families to become permanent legal residents of the U.S.



The Comcast Foundation Supports LULAC's Education of Latino Youth; Grant Will Support Literacy Program in Targeted Communities

WASHINGTON, DC. -The Comcast Foundation announced a \$50,000 grant for a literacy program to LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. (LNESC). The LNESC is a national, non-profit, community-based organization established by the League of United Latin American Citizens, whose mission is to educate and prepare America's future workforce through intensive educational programming and leadership development training. Support of LNESC's "Accelerated Program" reinforces Comcast's continued commitment to improving educational opportunities for the Hispanic community.

The project will be implemented in three Comcast markets; the La Villita neighborhood in Chicago, IL; Balboa Park in San Francisco, CA; and Pueblo, CO. The "Accelerated Reader" program will serve approximately 180 participants, 90 elementary school children and 90 parents. LNESC's supplementary services are considered an integral part of the education system in these neighborhoods because they face high rates for poverty, school drop out, and unemployment.

"Comcast is proud to support this important program, which provides essential literacy tools to individuals furthering their education," said David L. Cohen, executive vice president for Comcast and chairman of the Comcast Foundation. "Ultimately, providing support to organizations such as LNESC will expand the opportunities available to the Hispanic community and contribute to the success of those who participate in their programs."

"As the educational arm of LULAC, the country's oldest and largest Latino membership organization, LNESC is uniquely prepared to serve the educational needs of its target communities," said Rosa Rosales, LULAC National President.

"Given recent federal government budgetary cuts, Comcast's support comes at an integral time, enabling LULAC to continue providing our services to the Hispanic community," said Roman Palomares, Chairman of the Board, LNESC.

The "Accelerated Reader" program will be open to all elementary age students and their parents and will seek to accomplish

the following three things: increase and sharpen basic computer skills and technological literacy of both parents and students through the use of specialized software and the internet; improve reading skills, especially comprehension and retention; and develop and strengthen the educational partnership between students, parents, and schools.

About LULAC

The League of United Latin American Citizens is the nation's oldest and largest direct-membership Hispanic advocacy organization. The LNESC, a separately incorporated entity established by LULAC, has a mission to assist academically gifted, low-income youth in their college pursuits.

Over the past 32 years, LNESC has grown to encompass a national network of eighteen physical offices, twenty-one satellite programs and seventy-five local LULAC Councils. The councils participate in a wide array of education and scholarship programs that have been developed by LNESC specifically for these community groups. LNESC's far-reaching network allows it to make a greater impact on educational attainment within the Latino community in the United States. LNESC contributes to the success of over 15,000 students nationally every year by providing college admissions information and support, financial aid counseling, academic enrichment, SAT and ACT registration, application workshops, and general student advocacy through eliminating the obstacles that may impede their success. To date, LNESC has helped over 400,000



LULAC National President Rosa Rosales and LNESC Chairman Roman Palomares receiving \$50,000 check from Susan Gonzales, Corporate Senior Director of Government Affairs, COMCAST for LNESC educational service centers.

disadvantaged, minority students to complete high school and pursue a post-secondary degree.

About Comcast

Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA, CMCSK) (<http://www.comcast.com>) is the nation's leading provider of cable, entertainment and communications products and services. With 23.3 million cable customers, 10 million high-speed Internet customers, and 1.6 million voice customers, Comcast is principally involved in the development, management and operation of broadband cable systems and in the delivery of programming content.

Comcast's content networks and investments include E! Entertainment Television, Style Network, The Golf Channel, Versus, G4, AZN Television, PBS KIDS Sprout, TV One and four regional Comcast SportsNets. Comcast also has a majority ownership in Comcast Spectacor, whose major holdings include the Philadelphia Flyers NHL hockey team, the Philadelphia 76ers NBA basketball team and two large multipurpose arenas in Philadelphia.

Milwaukee Convention Highlights

Photos by Luis Nuño Briones



LULAC National Convention ribbon-cutting opening the convention exhibit hall.



Elvis Crespo entertaining the crowd at the Concierto de la Gente during the 2006 LULAC National Convention.



(l to r) Former LULAC National President Hector Flores, entertainer Johnny Canales, Wisconsin State Director Yolanda Santos Adams, Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle and LULAC Deputy State Director Wisconsin Darryl D. Morin.



Newly elected President Rosa Rosales addresses the delegates. (l to r) Gabriel Rosales, National Treasurer Jaime Martinez, President Rosales, former LULAC President Hector Flores, and National Legal Advisor Luis Roberto Vera, Jr.



Former LULAC President Hector Flores and Reverend Jesse Jackson at the 2006 LULAC National Convention.



Newly elected LULAC officers are sworn in at the 2006 LULAC National Convention.



President Felipe Calderon of Mexico and Hector Flores, Past National LULAC President, at President Calderon's inaugural reception in Mexico City, Dec. 1, 2006.



photo by Luis Nuño Briones

National LULAC President Rosa Rosales speaks in Chicago in support of Elvira Arellano, in sanctuary at a Chicago church to avoid deportation and separation from her 7 year old son, Saul. President Rosales urged Congress to pass an immigration reform bill that unites families.

Yes! I want to be a LULAC member!

All persons who are residents of the United States or are U.S. citizens residing abroad, are 18 years of age or older, and whose loyalty to our country is unquestionable, are eligible for membership in LULAC. LULAC members receive a copy of the LULAC Constitution, a membership card, a membership pin, and a complimentary subscription to the *LULAC NEWS*.

- I want to join LULAC as an active member. Please send me information on councils in my home area.
- I want to join LULAC as an associate member. Please find a check of \$25 enclosed.
- I want to become a lifetime member of LULAC. Enclosed is a contribution in the amount of \$1,000.
- My company would like to join LULAC as a corporate associate. Enclosed is a contribution of \$1,000.
- Please send me information on how I can start a LULAC council in my hometown.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____



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